

**IN THE CLAIMS**

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:  
a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core, said central core assembly having two longitudinal ends and an edge at each said longitudinal end;  
a primary spool and a secondary spool arranged around an outer circumference of the central core assembly;  
a primary coil wound on the primary spool and a secondary coil wound on the secondary spool, one of the coils being disposed radially inside the other of the coils; and  
a first buffer member part covering said edges of said two longitudinal ends of the central core assembly, wherein the first buffer member part is formed into a tube shape and has a hole therein on at least one of the two longitudinal ends of the central core assembly; and the hole is smaller in diameter than the central core assembly.
2. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 1, further comprising:  
a second buffer member part arranged on at least one of the two longitudinal ends of the central core assembly.

Claims 3-44. (canceled)

45. (Currently amended) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:  
a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core, said central core assembly having two longitudinal ends and an edge at each said longitudinal end;  
an insulating spool arranged around the core assembly, the spool being made of a resin material having a coefficient of thermal expansion different from a coefficient of thermal expansion of the core assembly;  
a coil wound on the insulating spool; and

an elastic buffer member disposed between the central core assembly and the spool and covering at least one of said edges of said longitudinal ends of the central core assembly to thereby restrict a direct contact between said at least one longitudinal end corner of the central core assembly and the spool;

the elastic buffer member includes a cylindrical part and an ~~annular plate~~ end part integrally extending from a longitudinal end of the cylindrical part;

the cylindrical part ~~covers~~ is disposed on a cylindrical surface of the central core assembly;

the ~~annular plate~~ end part ~~covers~~ is disposed on a longitudinal end surface of the central core assembly; and

the ~~annular plate~~ end part is thicker than the cylindrical ~~part~~ part

Claims 46 and 47. (canceled).

48. (Currently amended) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the ~~annular plate~~ end part has a hole at a radial center thereof.

49. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the elastic buffer member is formed from an elastomer resin.

50. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the elastic buffer member is shaped in a form of a thermally-contractable tube.

51. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the central core assembly includes a permanent magnet attached to a longitudinal end of the core and has an end corner that is covered with the elastic buffer member.

Claim 52. (canceled)

53. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein:  
said insulating spool and said coil are provided as a secondary side for  
generating a high ignition voltage; and  
another spool with coil wound thereon are provided as a primary side radially  
outside said insulating spool and said coil of the secondary side.

54. (Currently amended) An ignition coil for an engine comprising:  
a central core assembly including a rod-shaped core, said central core assembly  
having two longitudinal ends and an edge at each said longitudinal end;  
an insulating spool arranged around the core assembly, the spool being made of  
a resin material having a coefficient of thermal expansion different from a coefficient of  
thermal expansion of the core assembly;  
a coil wound on the insulating spool; and  
an elastic buffer member disposed between the central core assembly and the  
spool and covering at least one of said edges of said longitudinal end of the central core  
assembly to thereby restrict a direct contact between said at least one longitudinal end  
corner of the central core assembly and the spool, wherein:  
the elastic buffer member includes a cylindrical part and an annular ~~plate-end~~  
part integrally extending from a longitudinal end of the cylindrical part;  
the cylindrical part ~~covers~~ is disposed on a cylindrical surface of the central core  
assembly;  
the annular ~~plate-end~~ part ~~covers~~ is disposed on a longitudinal end surface of the  
central core assembly; and  
wherein the annular ~~plate-end~~ part has a hole at a radial center thereof.

55. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 54, wherein the elastic  
buffer member is formed from an elastomer resin.

56. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 54, wherein the elastic buffer member is shaped in a form of a thermally-contractable tube.

57. (Previously presented) The ignition coil of claim 54, wherein the central core assembly includes a permanent magnet attached to a longitudinal end of the core and has an end corner that is covered with the elastic buffer member.

58. (New) The ignition coil of claim 45, wherein the cylindrical part of the elastic buffer member covers the cylindrical surface of the central core assembly.

59. (New) The ignition coil of claim 54, wherein the cylindrical part of the elastic buffer member covers the cylindrical surface of the central core assembly.